APPENDIX

The pending claims and status of all claims are as follows:

1. (previously amended) An injectable composition suitable for tissue bulking in a mammal which comprises biocompatible, swellable, hydrophilic, non-toxic and substantially spherical microspheres and a biocompatible carrier, wherein said composition is injectable through needles of about 18 to 26 gauge and wherein said microspheres swell to a predetermined size after injection within the non-dermal tissue of said mammal.

2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises the microspheres in an amount from about 10% to about 90% by weight and the biocompatible carrier in an amount from about 10% to about 90% by weight.

3. The composition of claim 2, wherein the composition comprises the microspheres in an amount from about 10% to about 50% by weight and the biocompatible carrier in an amount from about 50% to about 90% by weight.

4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is a suspension of said microspheres in said biocompatible carrier.

5. Canceled. ~~The composition of claim 4, wherein the biocompatible carrier is an emulsion.~~

6. Canceled. ~~The composition of claim 4, wherein the biocompatible carrier is an organic or non-aqueous solution.~~

7. The composition of claim 4, wherein the biocompatible carrier is an aqueous based solution, a hydro-organic solution, or mixtures thereof.

8. The composition of claim 4, wherein the biocompatible carrier comprises salts composed of cations selected from the group consisting of sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, iron, zinc, and ammonium in an amount of from about 0.01 M to about 5 M.

9. Canceled. ~~The composition of claim 8, wherein the salt is supplied in form of a contrast agent.~~

10. Canceled. ~~The composition of claim 4, wherein the biocompatible carrier is acylamino-e-propion-amido-3-triiodo-2, 4, 6-benzoic acid.~~

11. The composition of claim 1, wherein average diameters of the microspheres after injection are about 1 to 4 times of average diameters of the microspheres immediately prior to injection.

12. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the microspheres comprise sodium acrylate polymer, acrylamide polymer, ~~acrylamide derivative polymer or copolymer,~~ sodium acrylate and vinyl alcohol copolymer, vinyl acetate and acrylic acid ester copolymer, vinyl acetate and methyl maleate copolymer, isobutylene-maleic anhydride crosslinked copolymer, starch-acrylonitrile graft copolymer, crosslinked sodium polyacrylate polymer, crosslinked polyethylene oxide, or mixtures thereof.

13. The composition of claim 12, wherein the polymers comprise from about 0.5% to about 20%, by molecular weight, of crosslinkers.

14. The composition of claim 1, which further comprises cells associated with surfaces of at least a portion of the microspheres prior to injection.

15. The composition of claim 14, wherein the cells are autologous cells from the subject mammal.

16. The composition of claim 15, wherein the autologous cells are fat cells, muscle cells, subcutaneous cells, dermal cells, epidermal cells, or combinations thereof.

17. The composition of claim 1, further comprises therapeutic agent, radio-pacifying agent, contrast medium, or mixtures thereof.

18. The composition of claim 17, wherein said agents or medium are bound to the microspheres.

19. The composition of claim 17, wherein the therapeutic agent is anti-inflammatory agent.

20. The composition of claim 1, wherein the microspheres are capable of being chemically modified to have therapeutic effects, anti-inflammatory effects, anti-bacterial effects, anti-histamine effects, or combinations thereof.

52. (currently added) The composition of claim 4, wherein the biocompatible carrier is a saline solution.